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20 July 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Special Support Assistant to the DDS

SUBJECT: Selected Evacuation - Terrorists Attacks

1. Mr. Robert Hull, Department of State, called on an airgram for release today on the above subject and asked for our comments or concurrence.

2. In effect, the airgram enunciates the policy that in the event a civilian employee of the United States Government and/or family is subject to terrorists attack (kidnapping, etc.) the Chief of Mission can recommend that they be moved to a safe haven on a TDY basis (the outside time limits not prescribed) to permit recovery from the strain and a determination as to whether they should be returned to the post, reassigned, etc. The recommendation would be forwarded to the Department for necessary determinations and approval. Hull explained this policy was developed with Latin American countries in mind.

3. The policy is to be applicable to all Federal civilian employees although in the case of other than State employees the department or agency head will make the determination and reimburse the expenses directly.

4. In response to my question, Hull said that he believes this program is authorized under existing general law and regulations applying to evacuation.

5. Hull explained that State did not want this to get bogged down in bureaucratic channels and was thus seeking telephonic concurrence. He said the Department of Defense had already concurred.

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6. In response to my question, Hull agreed that our concurrence was not necessary for the release of the airgram and said they merely wanted to be coordinated with other major agencies that might be affected. I told Hull that I was unaware of which specific coordination procedures exist in these areas but that I would be glad to bring this to the attention of responsible officials in the Agency and let him know the results. I told him that while this may not result in an official Agency position, this would assure that he is informally apprised of any misgivings or comments our substantive people might have. He said this would be helpful.

[REDACTED]

Assistant Legislative Counsel

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